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Admissions Plan Measure Hit

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INDIANA UNIVERSITY
Maurer School of Law
Bloomington

Admissions Plan Measure Hit

STAR I.U. - BLOOMINGTON BUREAU

Bloomington, Ind. — An Indiana Senate bill concerning the admission policy of state-supported law schools was criticized yesterday by Dean Douglass G. Boshkoff of the Indiana University Law School.

He said if the bill (S.B. 7) is approved, "it could give legal education in this state a bad name and destroy our admission system that commands respect from the entire country."

State Senator Robert L. Shaeffer (R-Shelbyville), who wrote the bill, admitted yesterday it could take control of who is admitted to the schools away from the educators.

His bill would give each member of the Indiana General Assembly power to appoint one freshman each year to each of the two state-supported law schools.

Shaeffer said he proposed the bill knowing it would mean General Assembly members could effectively assume control of the admissions.

IF ALL 150 legislators exercised such a power, it would fill 80 percent of the freshman places at the I.U. law school in Bloomington and more than 60 percent of the spaces in the Indiana-Purdue at Indianapolis law school.

law schools how to choose students, but he does want Indiana schools to "straighten up and consider the basics of what it takes to be a good lawyer."

He said the kind of students being produced, more professors than practicing attorneys, is one danger of current admissions procedures.

SHAEFFER, A law graduate of the University of Miami (Fla.), charged that too many potentially good lawyers are not admitted by Indiana schools.

He also implied that the I.U. law schools were so actively seeking minority students that minority students have been admitted without traditional high academic

qualifications.

Boshkoff said "seven excellent students apply for each of our 190 freshman places each year. That simply means six students will be disappointed and that is the way it will have to be as long as the school is limited in size.

"And anyone suggesting we do not take the best of the applicants is not aware of the real facts," he said.

Because the school admissions officers compare all the students Boshkoff said, "I just don't think any admissions system outside the school could provide a better class."

Boshkoff said he would appear before the Senate Public Policy Committee, which received the bill for hearing, if the proposal is publicly considered.

Shaeffer said he expects the bill to reach the Senate floor, but he was not very optimistic about its chances for approval.

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